

SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph on page 4 lines 10 to 31 with the following paragraph:

Figure 1 schematically illustrates a single cell assembly. As shown in Figure 1, the MEA (30) comprised a catalyst coated membrane (CCM) (10) having a polymer electrolyte membrane (11) and electrodes (12). The CCM (10) is sandwiched between two sheets of the gas diffusion backing, (GDB) (13). The anode and cathode gas diffusion backings (13) may comprise carbon paper or cloth and typically a fluorinated polymeric surface-treating agent, although other surface treatments may be used. A microporous layer or layers such as those manufactured by E-Tek Inc., Natick, MA may also be present in the cathode gas diffusion backing wherein the microporous layer may typically be disposed toward the cathode catalyst. A glass fiber reinforced silicone rubber gasket (19), for example (Furan - Type 1007, obtained from Stockwell Rubber Company), cut to shape to cover the exposed area of the membrane of the CCM, may be placed on either side of the CCM/GDB assembly (taking care to avoid overlapping of the GDB and the gasket material). The entire sandwich assembly may be assembled between the anode and cathode flow field graphite plates (21). One such 25cm² standard single cell assembly may be obtained from Fuel Cell Technologies Inc., Los Alamos, NM. The cell shown in Figure 1 may also be equipped with anode inlet (14), anode outlet (15), catholyte gas inlet (16), catholyte gas outlet (17), aluminum end blocks (18), tied together with tie rods (not shown), electrically insulating layer, (20), and gold plated current collectors, (22). Bolts on the outer plates (not shown) of the single cell assembly may be provided and tightened with a torque wrench to a ~~torque~~ torque of 1.5 ft. lb.